# Your Bound Proof vs Final Production Print

## Differences Explained

**What's the Difference?**
MCRL prepares a bound proof on a digital proofer BEFORE printing your final product on our offset press. Here are some differences you may notice.

## COLOUR

### BOUND PROOF uses TONER

**Digitally printed using thermal transfer printing or ink jet printer**

### FINAL PRINT uses INK

**Offset printed using safe, high quality soy ink**

- The colour of your digital print may be brighter than the final print
- There is 85-95% accuracy in colour of the proof and final printed product (due to toner vs ink).
- Ink on press is absorbed more by uncoated paper than toner is on the digital proof. This can affect show-through on final production
- The toner used in a digital bound proof can sometimes rub/flake off of the paper. This will not happen with offset printing
- Occasionally there is colour banding on large areas of solid colour on your proof (streaks or bands in the printed output). This banding won't occur on your final printed product

## LAMINATION

### BOUND PROOF = Cold lamination

### FINAL PRINT = Hot lamination with high pressure

The glue used in the lamination process for bound proofs and final printing is different.

Lamination sometimes doesn't adhere well in a bound proof due to the paper and toner used in digital printing. Bubbles are possible and sometimes laminate can "peel" off. This will not occur in the final printed product. The ink and paper used in offset printing your final product is ideal for lamination.

# TRIMMING

## BOUND PROOF

**Only two copies of every proof are printed and trimmed by hand**

## FINAL PRINT

**Many copies are printed and trimmed by machine**

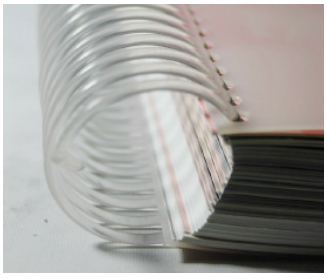
Because the Bound Proof is done by hand, depending on the specifications, t he trimming at the proofing stage can be spot-on OR off by more than 2mm. During final production, the process is done mechanically so the shift is limited up to 2mm in any direction.

# BINDING

Wire-o

Concealed Wire-o

Smyth Sewn



Plastic Coil/Spiral

Metal Spiral

## BOUND PROOF

**Smyth Sewn, perfect bound and saddle stitch binding are done by hand for physical proofs.**

**Wire-o and spiral binding are done by machine.**

## FINAL PRINT

**All sewing/folding/binding is done by machine in your final printed product** so the final product is more accurate and consistent looking than the bound proof.

Sometimes the spine width is not accurate in the bound proof because it was made before the pages are blocked. We will correct it according to page block thickness in production.

Because of the size limitations of the digital bound proof printer, hardcover book covers wrapped around board are printed in 2 sheets instead of 1 and lined up along the spine. You may see a seam on your bound proof. On the final print, we use a large offset press so there is no seam... the cover artwork is printed as 1 sheet.

# PAPER

## BOUND PROOF

We try to match your specified paper stock, but there are limitations. Digitally approved paper can differ from press approved paper. There could be a slight variance between the proof and final.

## FINAL PRINT

**The final printed product will have paper stock matching your quoted paper specs** and will match as close as possible to the bound proof.

100gsm(65 lb.) offset uncoated paper is the weight we recommend for Journals/Planners. For books with coated paper, the typical paper weight is 128gsm (80 lb.).

**NOTE:** the toner on the bound proof can rub off on some types of proofing paper. This would not be a problem on final production that uses ink. Toner also absorbs into uncoated paper more than ink on final press. This can cause slightly more show-through on the final.

# TABS

## BOUND PROOF

**Tabs are hand-cut at the proofing stage. You may notice red or blue dielines guiding where to cut. On a bound proof, these lines are often showing & sometimes the cutting is not perfectly smooth.**

## FINAL PRINT

**During final production, a metal die cuts the tabs to size. No dielines are needed so you won't see any marks and the tab edges are smoother.**

# FEATURES & FINISHES

## BOUND PROOF

**Sometimes the binding is glued instead of sewn OR the sewing is done by hand at the proofing stage so there can be loose threads**

## FINAL PRINT

**A mechanical process ensures more accuracy. If the proof looks great, you will see the same or better quality in the final print production.**

**You should review your proofs carefully. Please point out anything you notice so we can confirm. In most cases, the issues are only on the proof and will be resolved in final production.**

# HAVE REVISIONS TO YOUR PROOF?

**We prefer you send individual revised pages instead of the whole file UNLESS more than 1/3 of total pages need revisions.**

## This is because....

### Point #1

Sometimes files have minor print problems (like no bleed, no crop marks or colours need to be converted/changed in the files). Our pre-press will often make those fixes quickly and universally to the whole file. If you only submit a few revised pages, then the print fixes only need to be made to those pages. This saves time and effort.

### Point #2

In the first round of proofing, we normally print 2 bound proofs, one for you (client) and one to keep on hand to match during production. If a completely new file is submitted, when only a few pages have been revised, we need to print all pages instead of just those few with changes. This is because we're not sure where the revisions were made. This wastes time and can cause further errors as the original proof pages were already printed and checked.

### Point #3

When individual revised pages are submitted, they are printed and replaced in the copy we use for production. They can be carefully compared to the previous proof in order to make note of the change and monitor that it's actually made to the final files for print.

**IF over 1/3 of the total pages need revisions, please send the entire file with all pages to avoid errors matching pages up.**

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## WHERE TO SEND REVISIONS?

email Carol@mcrlprinting.com with your revisions or questions.